

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A lighting control system comprising:
 - a light with at least one lamp;
 - a remote control having a remote keypad and signal means for transmitting a wireless remote control signal containing instructions;
 - a serial network output port;
 - at least one device connected in series to the serial network output port, each at least one connected device being addressable using a serial network protocol;
 - a controller contained within the light and connected to the light and to the serial network output port, the controller having a keypad including a mode switch for switching the controller between at least a local mode and a remote mode, the controller in the local mode being for changing the dimming level of the light, and the controller in the remote mode being for generating and transmitting a serial network protocol instruction signal to the light and each at least one connected device, the network protocol instruction signal containing device settings for the light and each at least one connected device, the device settings being changed using the remote keypad or the controller keypad; and
 - a sensor connected to the controller for receiving the remote control signal.

2. A lighting control system according to claim 1, further comprising linearization means in the controller for linearizing a dimming curve for the light to smoothly dim the light.

3. A lighting control system according to claim 2, wherein the linearization means comprises a linearization algorithm and look-up table corresponding to the at least one lamp in the light.

4. A lighting control system according to claim 3, wherein the at least one lamp comprises a fluorescent lamp.

5. A lighting control system according to claim 1, wherein the serial network protocol is DMX-512.

6. A lighting control system according to claim 1, wherein the controller comprises a microcontroller, a memory connected to the microcontroller, and a display driven by the microcontroller, the controller keypad and serial network output port each connected to the microprocessor.

7. A lighting control system according to claim 6, wherein the microcontroller includes counter means for counting the hours of operation of each at least one lamp in the light.

8. A lighting control system according to claim 7, wherein the at least one lamp comprises a fluorescent lamp.

9. A lighting control system according to claim 8, further comprising linearization means in the controller for linearizing a dimming curve for the light to smoothly dim the light when the controller is operated in the local mode.

10. A lighting control system according to claim 1 wherein the remote control signal is an IR/RF signal.

11. A lighting control system according to claim 10, wherein the serial network protocol is DMX-512.

12. A lighting control system according to claim 11, wherein the at least one lamp comprises a fluorescent lamp.

13. A lighting control system according to claim 12, further comprising linearization means in the controller for linearizing a dimming curve for the light to smoothly dim the light.

14. A control system for a studio or set location, the control system comprising:

a light having a housing and at least one lamp;

a serial network protocol controller integral with the light in the housing, the controller having at least two operation modes, the controller connected to the light for dimming each at least one lamp in the light in a first operation mode, the controller generating a serial network protocol control signal in a second operation mode;

a plurality of serial network protocol-controllable studio devices connected in a network with the serial network protocol controller for receiving serial network control signals, the plurality of serial network protocol-controllable studio devices each having a serial network protocol address and being selected from the group consisting of cameras, yokes, lights, projectors, sound

systems, telephones, microphones, and computers.

15. A control system according to claim 14, wherein the serial network protocol controller further comprises a sensor for receiving wireless signals from a remote control.

16. A control system according to claim 15, wherein the controller comprises a microcontroller, a memory connected to the microcontroller, and a display driven by the microcontroller, the controller keypad and serial network output port each connected to the microprocessor.

17. A control system according to claim 16, wherein the microcontroller includes counter means for counting the hours of operation of each at least one lamp in the light.

18. A control system according to claim 16, further comprising linearization means in the controller for linearizing a dimming curve for the light to smoothly dim the light.

19. A control system according to claim 18, wherein the linearization means comprises a linearization algorithm and look-up table corresponding to the at least one lamp in the light.

20. A control system according to claim 19, wherein the at least one lamp comprises a fluorescent lamp.

21. A control system according to claim 14, further comprising linearization means in the controller for linearizing a dimming curve for the light to smoothly dim the light.

22. A control system according to claim 21, wherein the linearization means comprises a linearization algorithm and look-up table corresponding to the at least one lamp in the light.

23. A control system according to claim 22, wherein the at least one lamp comprises a fluorescent lamp.

24. A control system according to claim 14, wherein the controller further comprises a keypad and a display for operating the controller in either of the first and second operation modes.

25. A control system according to claim 24, further comprising a wireless remote control, the controller having a sensor for receiving a wireless signal from the remote control to operate the controller in either of the first and second operation modes.

26. A control system according to claim 25, wherein the wireless remote control includes a mode switch for changing between the first and second operation modes.

27. A control system according to claim 26, further comprising linearization means in the controller for

linearizing a dimming curve for the light to smoothly dim the light.

28. A control system according to claim 27, wherein the at least one lamp comprises a fluorescent lamp.

29. A control system according to claim 28, wherein the controller includes counter means for tracking a number of hours of operation for the fluorescent lamp.

30. A control system according to claim 25, wherein the wireless remote control includes a keypad and a display for generating the wireless signal.

31. A control system according to claim 30, wherein the wireless signal is one of an infrared signal, an RF signal or a combination thereof.

32. A control system according to claim 30, wherein the wireless signal contains instructions for dimming the light used in the first operation mode and instructions for changing the serial network protocol control signal in the second operation mode.

33. A control system according to claim 32, wherein the remote control is used to generate a wireless signal for changing the serial network protocol signal for a particular serial network protocol address when the controller is operated in the second operation mode.

34. A control system according to claim 33, wherein the serial network protocol is one of DMX-512, DMX-512-A and ART-NET.

35. A control system according to claim 32, wherein the remote control is used to generate a wireless signal for simultaneously changing the serial network protocol signal for each serial network protocol address when the controller is operated in the second operation mode.

36. A control system according to claim 35, wherein the serial network protocol is one of DMX-512, DMX-512-A and ART-NET.

37. A control system according to claim 25, wherein the serial network protocol is one of DMX-512, DMX-512-A and ART-NET.

38. A control system according to claim 14, wherein the serial network protocol is one of DMX-512, DMX-512-A and ART-NET.

39. A control light for a lighting control system having at least a pair of serial network protocol-controllable devices each having a serial network protocol address connected together in a network, the control light comprising:

a housing;

at least one lamp held in the housing;

a serial network protocol controller mounted in

the housing and electrically connected to the at least one lamp for dimming the at least one lamp in a first operation mode, the controller including linearization means for linearizing the dimming curve for the at least one lamp, the controller having a second operation mode for generating and transmitting a serial network protocol signal to each of the at least a pair of serial network protocol-controllable devices and the at least one lamp.

40. A control light according to claim 39, wherein the controller further comprises counter means for tracking a number of hours of operation for the at least one lamp.

41. A control light according to claim 39, wherein the lamp comprises a fluorescent lamp.

42. A control light according to claim 39, wherein the controller further comprises a remote sensor for receiving a wireless control signal.

43. A control light according to claim 42, wherein the wireless control signal is an RF signal, an IR signal or a combination thereof.

44. A control light according to claim 39, further comprising a keypad for operating the controller in each of the first and second operation modes.

45. A control light according to claim 44, wherein the keypad includes a switch for changing between the first and second operation modes.

46. A control light according to claim 44, further comprising a display on the controller.

20250000 4/22/2001